

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 remain pending in the application, with claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 are sought to be amended. Entry and consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. No new matter is believed to have been introduced by this amendment.

Applicants have made the above amendment to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0143529 (hereinafter referred to as "Schmid"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection since Schmid does not teach or suggest each element of amended independent claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 and their respective dependent claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 19-21 for at least the following reason.

Independent claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 are amended to include a similar feature of: in response to human speech specifying a wildcard word, determining a set of potential words spoken by the user by finding the generic words and non-generic words that phonetically match the wildcard word, wherein the non-generic words are not part of the rule-based grammar, assigning each of the generic and non-generic words a confidence level based on a set of rules followed by the speech engine, removing the generic words from the set of

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potential words spoken by the user, and selecting a remaining word from the set of potential words spoken by the user having a highest confidence level. Schmid does not appear to teach or suggest this feature. Thus, for at least this reason, independent claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 and their respective dependent claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 19-21 are distinguishable from Schmid. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

INVITATION FOR A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned, Molly A. McCall, at (703) 633-3311 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed accommodated or rendered moot. Thus, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, and as such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, and allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Intel Corporation

Dated: 6-22-05

Molly A. McCall/ Registration No. 46,126
Molly A. McCall
(703) 633-3311

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on:

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Katherine Jennings

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Katherine Jennings

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